

REMARKS

Claims 22, 29-39, and 42-61 continue to appear in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration.

In response to the Examiner's election of species, applicants elect the automatic switching between dispensing and cleaning. As noted in the office action, claim 58 is generic to this embodiment, while claims 22, 29-32, 34-37, 39, and 42-61 read upon this embodiment. As previously explained, the present invention provides a number of ways to automatically accomplish cleaning of a dispenser. In one embodiment, hot water is used as the sanitizing solution and particular conditions are used for the sanitizing. Sanitization occurs according to a time controlled cleansing program and that the dispensing of the food product is interrupted during sanitization. This enables the dispenser to be periodically cleaned automatically so that the undesired residues are continually removed. Furthermore, the method of the invention recites a first and second cleansing fluids to conduct cleansing operations on at least a dispensing path, with the first cleansing fluid directed along the fluid path to de-soil the fluid path and the second cleansing fluid used to sanitize a portion of the fluid path. The second cleansing fluid comprises hot water and is applied at temperature and time intervals and duration conditions effective to sanitize the fluid path portion.

As none of the prior art discloses such a method, it is believed that the entire application is in condition for allowance, early notice of which would be appreciated. Should the Examiner not agree, then a personal or telephonic interview is respectfully requested in order to expedite the eventual allowance of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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